NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

NASS NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For Week Ending August 10, 1997

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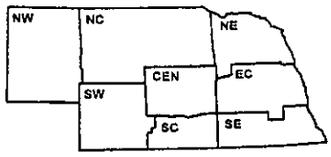
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources--UN-L

WEATHER

Temperatures were cool for the week averaging three to five degrees below normals. Precipitation was widespread across the State with averages from less than a tenth of an inch to over an inch.

GENERAL

Limited rainfall last week provided minimal relief to dryland crops in the Southwest, but did not halt the deterioration of conditions, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Irrigation efforts continued nearly non-stop to provide support for the crops under irrigation. Spraying for insects (such as leaf hoppers, spider mites, and second brood corn borers) continued active. Producer activities also included putting up hay, weed control, and preparations for fall wheat seeding.

CROPS

Corn condition rated 3% very poor, 9% poor, 27% fair, 48% good, and 13% excellent. Irrigated corn rated 76% good to excellent, while 29% of the dryland corn was good to excellent. As of Sunday, virtually all crop had silked, ahead of last year and the average Corn in the dough stage was at 37%, compared with 20% last year and 28% average. Some producers were treating fields for insects. The dry conditions continued to stress dryland fields Producers continued to pump water to their crop to minimize stress and maximize yields, but in some cases, well supplies were dropping quickly.

Soybean condition declined last week and rated at 1% very poor, 8% poor, 37% fair, 47% good, and 7% excellent. Dryland fields were feeling the brunt of the dry conditions, as reflected in the lowered condition ratings. Blooming was occurring on all acreage by week's end, ahead of last year's 96% and 91% average. Pod set progressed to 67%, compared with 49% last year and 51% for the average. Chemical weed control continued as well as walking beans for weed control.

CROPS (Cont.)

Sorghum condition declined slightly to 6% very poor, 13% poor, 33% fair, 44% good, and 4% excellent. Heading progressed to 69% as of Sunday, compared with 52% last year and 47% average.

Oats harvest for grain progressed to 98%, ahead of 95% last year and 89% for the average.

Dry bean condition was rated 4% poor, 34% fair, 56% good, and 6% excellent Pod set advanced to 72%, compared with 82% last year.

Alfalfa condition declined to 11% very poor, 24% poor, 41% fair, 22% good and 2% excellent Second cutting activities were 95% complete. This is slightly behind last year and the average at 96%. Third cutting activities were 20% complete, compared with 16% last year and 19% average. Due to the dry conditions, regrowth has been slow. Wild hay condition rated 8% very poor, 27% poor, 35% fair, 28% good, and 2% excellent. Native grass haying continued active

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 17% very poor, 30% poor, 34% fair, 15% good, and 4% excellent. Pastures in the south central district were reported to be in the poorest condition statewide. Producers were supplemental feeding in many areas of the State to stretch pasture grazing potential or moving cattle off of the pastures. Additional CRP and roadway acres were approved for haying and grazing in parts of the State due to limited growth on pastures.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 10, 1997	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Silked	91	99	99	100	100	99	99	100	99	91	96	91
% Corn Dough Stage	17	13	9	57	47	13	56	60	37	12	20	28
% Soybeans Blooming	n/a	93	99	99	100	99	100	100	99	93	96	91
% Soybeans Setting Pods	n/a	44	52	66	76	73	75	84	67	40	49	51
% Sorghum Headed	n/a	91	34	64	85	53	59	71	69	37	52	47
% Oats Harvested	69	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	98	94	95	89
% Dry Beans Podded	70	63	23	70	n/a	78	n/a	n/a	72	49	82	n/a
% Alfalfa Second Cutting	64	100	100	98	100	100	100	100	95	90	96	96
% Alfalfa Third Cutting	0	19	7	24	21	39	39	33	20	4	16	19
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 8, 1997												
Days suitable	3.7	6.0	6.9	6.4	6.4	3 9	6 8	6.7	6.0	5 4	3 9	
Topsoil moisture - Very Short	0	6	14	76	41	6	79	28	29	22	0	
(Percent) - Short	19	49	68	19	42	32	21	52	41	41	13	
- Adequate	80	45	18	5	17	56	0	20	29	36	73	
- Surplus	1	0	0	0	0	6	0	0	1	1	14	
Subsoil moisture - Very Short	4	7	4	48	23	11	70	20	21	15	0	
(Percent) - Short	17	41	49	39	43	45	28	59	41	40	17	
- Adequate	79	52	47	13	34	40	2	21	37	45	75	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	8	

n/a = not available.

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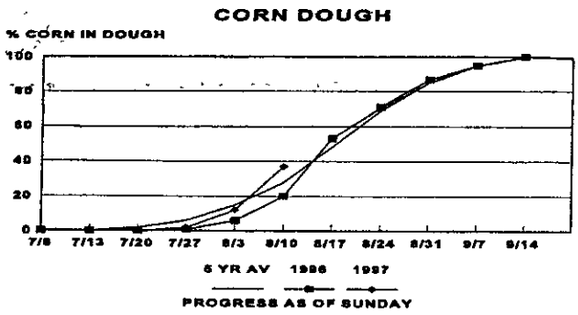
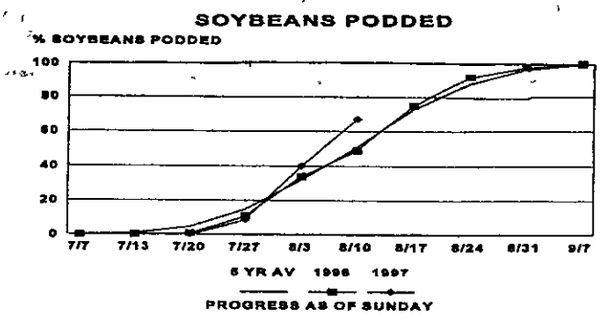
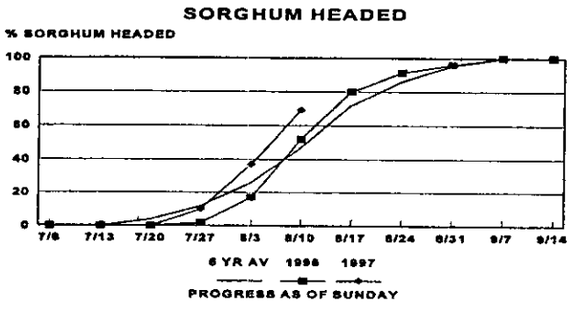
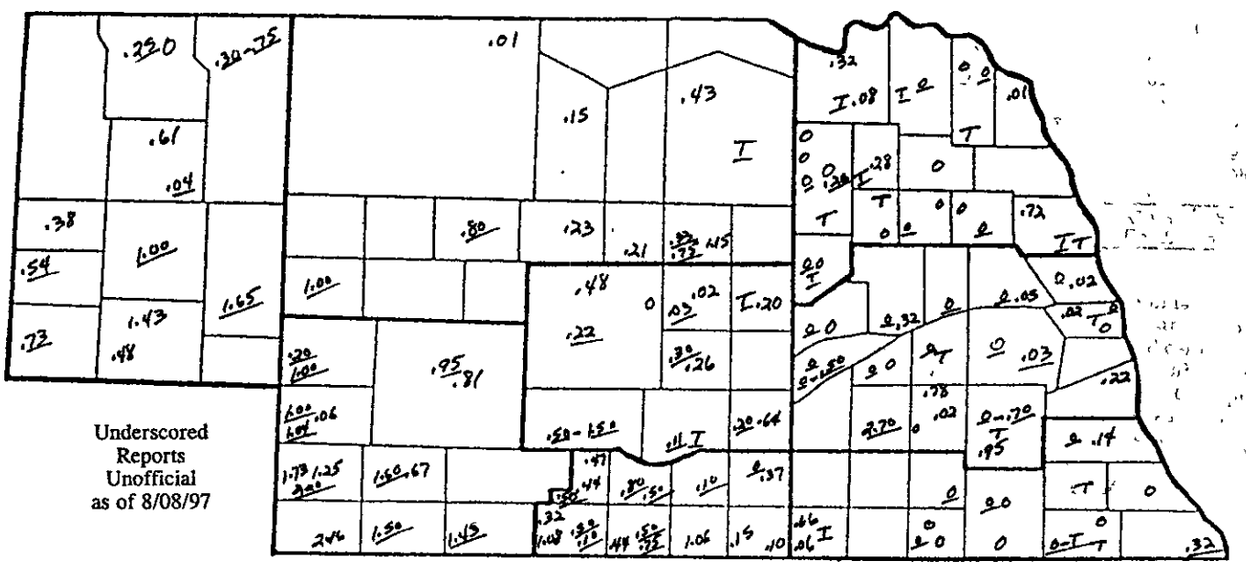






PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 1997



Underscored Reports Unofficial as of 8/08/97

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - AUGUST 9, 1997

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.58	36	.08	.27	.16	1.11	.49	.07
Total since April 1	12.72	13.68	12.60	8.99	13.12	11.87	9.07	14 68
Normal since April 1	10.76	12.96	14 50	14.21	15.45	12.22	14 06	15 71
Total as % of normal	118%	106%	87%	63%	85%	97%	65%	93%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, AUGUST 9, 1997

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	97	48	72	---	0	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	89	51	69	-5	.38	1626	1780	1762
	Sidney	91	50	70	---	.48	1578	1731	1750
NC	Valentine	90	54	71	-4	.01	---	---	---
	Arthur	---	---	---	---	---	1572	1729	1898
	O'Neill	---	---	---	---	---	1675	1848	2037
NE	Norfolk	95	53	72	-3	T	---	---	---
	Sioux City	93	52	72	-3	01	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1697	1866	2077
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1693	1867	2061
	West Point	---	---	---	---	---	1795	1969	2157
CEN	Grand Island	94	59	72	-4	.64	1777	1947	2122
	Ord	95	58	72	---	.02	1722	1893	2095
	Kearney	---	---	---	---	---	1810	1981	2105
EC	Lincoln	97	56	74	-3	T	1929	2119	2308
	Omaha	94	54	73	-3	T	---	---	---
	Central City	---	---	---	---	---	1781	1943	2146
	Mead	---	---	---	---	---	1873	2054	2249
SW	Imperial	91	56	72	---	1.25	---	---	---
	North Platte	92	54	71	-3	81	1717	1880	1949
	McCook	---	---	---	---	---	1854	2024	2010
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	1778	1943	2089
	Red Cloud	---	---	---	---	---	1931	2129	2101
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	1848	2029	2306
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	1806	1978	2134

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.